MINNESOTA COMMERCIAL RAILWAY

508 Cleveland Avenue North St. Paul, MN 55114

Contact:

Wayne Hall, Director of Operations

The Minnesota Commercial Railway (MNNR) operates on 120 miles of track (including operating rights on other railroads) in Anoka, Hennepin, Ramsey and Washington counties. Minnesota Commercial connects with all the railroads that serve the Twin Cities area. The railroad employs 102 Minnesotans full time, up from 22 in 1987 when the railroad began operations.

The company also operates a 20-unit truck line that handles steel, lumber, heavy equipment and other commodities. A warehouse, transload facility and team track in Fridley offer reload services for much of the metro area. The company has a marketing and service alliance with Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern Triple Crown intermodal service.

The railroad serves a total of ten Minnesota communities with a main line extending from St. Paul into the northern suburbs of Anoka County and east to Bayport and Hugo. Minnesota Commercial trains also use BNSF, Canadian Pacific, and Union Pacific tracks to reach other carriers' yards in Minneapolis and St. Paul for interchange. Amtrak trains travel over the Minnesota Commercial to reach the Midway depot in St. Paul.

MNNR in Minnesota

Miles of track owned: 35

Employees: 102

Annual payroll: \$4.8 million

Total revenue units (2008): 46,156 Commodities carried: Lumber, steel, paper,

mmodities carried: Lumber, steel, paper, wines and beers, potash,

consumer goods

Number of locomotives: 32

Freight cars: 80



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The railroad serves 130 customers including seven grain elevators and two flour mills in the Twin Cities. Major customers include: Rock-Tenn, Andersen Window, several Weyerhaeuser plants and the Hugo and Roseville industrial parks. In addition, MNNR services Amtrak trains and equipment for Universal Forest Products, Weekes Forest Products and IPSCO Steel.

The Minnesota Commercial began operations in 1987 when it acquired the Minnesota Transfer Railway Company—at the time handling only 8,000 revenue units. In 2008, the Minnesota Commercial handled more than 46,000 revenue units. In the past three years, Minnesota Commercial has spent about \$6 million for capital improvements.

The Minnesota Transfer Railway was incorporated in 1883 as a switching line and was owned by the major railroads in the Twin Cities area. Rail lines operated today by Minnesota Commercial include those acquired from the old Minnesota Transfer in 1987, plus lines from other Class I carriers.



